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## INFORMATION REPORT

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. "It has become known only now that a special mission of high ranking Soviet officers arrived in utmost secrecy in Bulgaria on April 25th. A special military plane, used exclusively by the Soviet Embassy and the Soviet Military Mission in Bulgaria, brought them from Moscow to the airfield of Bozurich. (Regular planes of the Soviet Airline 'Aeroflot' use the nearby Vrajdabna airfield.) The passengers of the special plane were: Col. Gen. I. Z. Susaykov, Lt. Gen. I. A. Romanienko (both from the Armored Troops), Maj. Gen. V. S. Zakharov, Col. V. I. Gusyev (both Air Force), Naval 1st Rank Capt. E. N. Bryukhanov (Navy) and Col. F. K. Agibalov, former Chief War Correspondent of the Army paper 'Krasnaya Zvezda' (Red Star). They were accompanied by eight other staff officers from the Soviet Army, Navy and Air Force, whose identity is unknown.

2. "This mission from Moscow was joined the same day by another group of four MGB and MVD officers, who arrived by plane from Odessa. The latter were: Maj. Gen. Josif Martianovich Bartashunas, Col. Andrey Pavlovich Lashov, Lt. Col. Karl Ivanovich Yampetrovich and Lt. Col. Vassily Nikitych Byelayev.

3. "Two significant facts render special importance to the arrival of these missions:

- (a) The Moscow group was headed by Col. Gen. Susaykov, who had been the Soviet Chairman of the Allied Control Commission for Rumania;
- (b) The mentioned 4 Security Service officers all belong in their respective Departments to special units guarding the secrecy of atomic research in the USSR.

4. "The arrival of the two planes was surrounded by utmost secrecy. The Moscow plane was met by Gen. Pashkov, Head of the Soviet Military Mission, and his Chief of Staff, Lt. Col. F. F. Rumyantsev and Maj. Zakjevsky, and MGB officer attached to the Mission. The passengers of the Odessa plane were greeted by Col. Ivan Ivanovich Doshlov, Deputy of the MGB-INO (Foreign Espionage Service of the Moscow Ministry of State Security) in Bulgaria, at present stationed in Bucharest. It is significant that no representative of the Soviet Embassy in Sofia, nor of the Bulgarian Government was present at the airfield, or had later any contact with the two missions. Gen. Grekov, Chief of the Bulgarian General Staff put merely 7 deluxe 'Zis' cars at the disposal of the Soviet military

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party, all with Soviet drivers.

5. "The Soviet guests proceeded immediately from the airfield to the fashionable suburban residential district of Banki. They were quartered in two adjoining villas, one of which used to belong to the former Bulgarian Prime-Minister Stamboliysky. Next to the latter, in a mansion where Soviet Marshal Tolbukhin had his headquarters during and after the war in the Chaussee Tolbukhin, the so-called Central Committee of Aid to Democratic Greece is located. The reorganized General Staff of the Greek Partisan Army is camouflaged under this name.
6. "Between their arrival in the late afternoon of April 25th and their departure by air, around noon April 30th, none of the 19 Soviet officers left Banki. Although they made no official or private visits, the mission received quite a number of visitors. During their stay the Soviet military dignitaries were guarded by a special group of the Soviet OB-MGB.
7. "Despite all his efforts the special correspondent [ ] in the Balkans was unable to obtain further details about the secret Banki conferences. Neither the Bulgarian press nor the radio made any mention of the arrival and presence of the Soviet Mission. The only information leaks were through the so-called 'Karaine Roty' (Guard Companies) of the Bulgarian DSIG (Security Service), who were on duty at the airfield, along the route to Banki and at Banki proper. They were assigned, however, only to perform outer service, while the inside security detachments were all furnished by the MGB.
8. "As a steady flow of visitors and of communications between the 'Sviatoslav' House, the residence of the Greek Committee and the two houses where the Soviet visitors were quartered could be observed, one may deduct that the secret Banki conference had something to do with Greek Partisan affairs. This supposition is however yet to be confirmed by eventual future developments.

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